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ALEX. GAZETTE & VIRGINIA ADVERTISER
(FOR THE COUNTRY.)
Published regularly on TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS and SATURDAYS, at FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM, payable in advance.

REMARKABLE DAYS IN FEBRUARY.

Short as the month of February is, it manages to draw within its compass days which are remarkable enough to minds of many sorts. The sportsman, the religious man, the thoughtful, the historian, the scientific man, will all find every one of them full in it days of a very marked character.

There is the first of the month, which closes partridge and pheasant shooting, and opens salmon-fishing. There is the second, Candlemas Day, which stands for the anniversary of the day when our Saviour was presented in the Temple, and when the aged Simeon sang at the sight of his Saviour, that cheerful evening hymn of life's day, "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, which the Lord hath adopted into his service daily throughout the year." There is Ash Wednesday (which almost always falls in February). And there is St. Valentine's Day.

There is St. Valentine's Day, for those who would make a joke of what is about the most serious business in life—Love and Marriage. There is the twenty-sixth, on which was proclaimed before the Hotel de Ville in Paris the short-lived Republic of 1848, which dying like a moth as soon as it has laid its eggs, left a good many germs to be hatched in process of time.

And last and least, but not least important, comes the twenty-ninth, once every four years, to redress the balance, as nearly as it can, between God's ordinance and man's decimal system; and to suggest that man is not the measure of all things, but that there are incomensurables beyond his calculus, although he can get as nearly as he needs for this world's requirements.

Well, we need not stop long over the first day of the month; we have but to congratulate the pheasants and partridges on having got a holiday, and the country on having got a sensible law on salmon-fishing, which, in combination with science, may, in process of time, add largely to the food productions. Candlemas Day carries in its name a curious reminiscence of the dark holes and corners in which the persecuted Christians of the first ages were driven to worship God. For safety's sake they held their services before daylight, and in underground cellars; and the woman who came to be "churched," as we call it, would, for instance, bring her candle with her. When persecution ceased the lighted candles were still retained, though no longer necessary, and in some churches they are used to the present day; the Pope of Rome, for example, on grand occasions, has an attendant by his side with a lighted candle, as if for the purpose of enabling him to read his book, though it is broad daylight; and so Candlemas was in the Church of England, before the Reformation, celebrated by the bearing of candles in memory of what we may call the "churching" of the Virgin Mary.

Among the days which we have named, the one that comes next in order of time is St. Valentine's Day—a great trial to the postmen, who on that occasion have to deliver an enormous number of "Valentines," most of them very stupid, and many much worse. Why the good old bishop, St. Valentine, who suffered martyrdom 1,600 years ago, should have to stand godfather to all the Valentines which fly over the country on his day, is not very clear; but it is said by some that it is because he was a man of a very affectionate disposition, and that therefore this day was chosen for the sending of Valentines, which should be letters or gifts of a kindly and affectionate character. So much, however, is said and sung every year in reference to St. Valentine, that we will leave him, and pass on to a day of a very different stamp.

Ash Wednesday, which, this year, falls on the 18th of February. The day on which it falls varies from year to year, according to the full moons, and is regulated by a principle which will be more easily explained in connection with Easter Day, upon which it depends. But it may be mentioned here that the earliest day on which it can fall is the fourth of February, while the latest is the tenth of March; so that we may say that more than seventy times out of the hundred it falls in the month of February, which may therefore fairly claim it as one of its days.

As to the meaning of the name, it comes from the old custom of sprinkling ashes on people's heads upon that day, as a sign of mourning, and to remind them that they are but dust and ashes.

St. Matthias' Day is the next day which claims attention after Ash Wednesday in the calendar. We know but little of St. Matthias beyond the important fact that it was he that was chosen to fill up the Apostleship which was left vacant by the treacherous abdication of Judas Iscariot; yet what a lesson do we learn from that—how we must not presume upon any gifts or graces, however great they may be, but must learn by the fearful example of Judas Iscariot, one of the chosen Apostles of Jesus Christ, that he who thinketh he standeth must take heed lest he fall!

Thus, then, February, short as it is, has generally its full share of days sacred to religious memories and prospect. But what a remarkable day in the politics and history of Europe, too, to say of the world, is the twenty-sixth of February, when the short-lived French Republic of 1848 was proclaimed in Paris! The French had had a Republic once before, which culminated in a military despotism; and when that became more than the rest of Europe, or France itself, could bear, it was overthrown, and the old Royal Family was restored. They did not know how to make good use of their recovered position, and fell again, a new King being put in their place. He governed for seventeen years, apparently to the general satisfaction of the French nation. But suddenly, one short February day, he offended the people of Paris by refusing to allow a certain political dinner party to take place; whereupon the populace rose against him, and vowed that he should not be king any longer. He shaved off his whiskers, escaped to England under the name of plain Mr. Smith, and a Republic was proclaimed. Shortly after this Louis Napoleon, nephew of the old Napoleon (Old Bonaparte), who we used to call him, the deposed military despot, was elected President of the Republic, which he swore to maintain. But hardly had he found himself possessed of power before he attacked the Republic on the head, and made himself emperor—a position which he held till September, 1870, when he was deposed, and a Republic was again proclaimed in the midst of a bloody war, the result of which is what we now see.

These, then, are some of the remarkable days which we may find in this short month of February; but perhaps the most remarkable day in it is that which is, more often than not, remarkable by its absence—we mean, of course, the twenty-ninth.

The 29th is a day in the calendar peculiarly dear to every American heart. Washington was among the foremost of his race. He was one of the first of Generals, the first of Statesmen, the first of Philosophers, and one of the wisest and best of men. Yet, hear it, Oh ye corrupt Philosphers and Patriots of this degenerate age, Washington was a serious Christian!

HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.

Baltimore, Maryland.
BROCHE AND CACHMERE d'ECOSSE SHAWLS.
We keep both the Paris and Vienna makes of these Shawls, and have now in stock of this season's goods
ABOUT FOUR HUNDRED NEW PATTERNS.
Prices from \$7.50 to \$125 each.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

OUR AIM IS TO SUPPLY GOODS adapted to the wants of the poor as well as to the rich, and we keep of STANDARD GOODS, with a fixed price and not misrepresenting the quality of any article, the public may supply their wants from us with confidence.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, &c., FOR MEN AND BOYS' WEAR.
In this department will be found all the desirable and fashionable goods of the season, and gentlemen may save 25 to 35 per cent upon the cost of a suit of clothing by getting the material of us.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

MOURNING DEPARTMENT—This stock receives our most careful attention, and in it will be found not only all of the best and most serviceable grades of STANDARD GOODS, but every novelty for deep or light mourning that comes out in the London market. Our "Monumental" brand of ALPACAS and PURE MOHAIRS are imported only by us, and while they are as light and well finished as any other make of goods, they are fully one-third heavier than any other brand in the market.

Particular attention paid to filling funeral orders.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

HOUSEKEEPING GOODS—Hotels, Steamboats and Public Institutions supplied with the best and most durable articles, at moderate prices. We keep a large stock of goods specially adapted to above wants.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

ALL PERSONS ARE INVITED to visit our store and inspect the stock, whether buying or not, at the time or not, and they may rely upon polite attention, and not being pressed to buy. Full lines of samples of any kinds of goods will be sent to parties out of the city, and express charges paid on cash purchases amounting to \$20 and over.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

LACES—We have determined to regain our former prestige for having the best stock of LACE GOODS in the city, and have this season imported very largely of them. We will hereafter be found every NEW STYLE lace that comes out in Brussels, and at reasonable prices.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

CAMELS' HAIR SHAWLS—Seventy (70) NEW SHAWLS—this season's importation—all different patterns. Prices from \$45 to \$1,000 each.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

EVENING SILKS AND SATINS—We have now in store a full line of evening Silks, embracing all the new shades that have come out in France this season.
Prices from \$1.50 to \$7.50 per yard.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

DEALERS who buy and sell exclusively for cash must do so at lower prices than those who give credit and make bad debts. Increased profits must be put on goods when credit is given to equalize losses by bad debts.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

DEALERS who import their goods direct from the manufacturers in Europe not only offer to their customers the newest and most of the New York importers and "middle men," can sell their goods to consumers at about the prices other merchants pay for them.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

EMBROIDERIES, EDGINGS AND INSERTINGS—Of these goods we have at all times a large and commanding stock. We invite an inspection of the goods and a comparison of prices.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

DRESS GOODS—Our stock of Dress Goods in every department will, as heretofore, be unsurpassed by that of any house in the country. In it will be found every grade of goods from the lowest priced to the most expensive.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING GOODS, London made Umbrellas, English Underwear and Hosiery, receive special attention.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Samples supplied by mail on application.

ALL RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS buy their supplies from us AT COST.
HAMILTON EASTER & SONS.
Baltimore, Dec 23-262m

HENRY COOK,

General Insurance Agent,

107 KING STREET, ALEXANDRIA, VA.,

REPRESENTING THE

HOME INSURANCE CO., of Columbus,

Ohio. Assets \$500,000.

SOUTHERN MUTUAL INSURANCE CO.,

of Richmond, Va. Assets \$300,000. Deposits

with the Treasurer of Virginia \$50,000.

LOSSES EQUITABLY ADJUSTED and promptly paid at this agency. Applications solicited and immediate attention given thereto.

Feb 2-1f

MASQUERADES, BALLS AND PARTIES.

Goods hired out for the above, consisting of

Coronets, Jewelry, Hair Braid, Curis, &c., on

liberal terms.
FERGUSON'S HAIR DEPOT,
dec 18 66 KING STREET.

TELL YOUR GROCER TO ORDER

WARFIELD'S COLD WATER SOAP,

Manufactured by

Z. TOBKINER.

It is superior to all other Soaps. dec 2

DRY GOODS.

W. M. N. BERRY.
Has just received
A large stock of DOMESTIC DRY GOODS, embracing Red and White Flannels, Cassimeres, Kerseys, Kentucky Jeans, Brown and Bleached Cottons, Fancy Prints, White and Colored Blankets, Gingham, Canton Flannels, &c., at the very lowest cash prices. dec 22

OWING to the increased demand for the celebrated REBECCA KID GLOVES, PRETZELDER & BENDHEIM have just received a new supply of popular shades—one and two buttons—at the nominal price of \$1.00 and \$1.25. dec 22

SPECIAL ATTENTION is called to the great bargains offered in FURS, CARPETS, PORTMONAIES, &c., at PRETZELDER & BENDHEIM'S Popular Dry Goods Store, 144 King street. dec 22

PRETZELDER & BENDHEIM.

Sole Agents for the celebrated

\$1 & \$1.25 Rebecca Kid Gloves

(Every pair warranted.)

Are now offering their large and varied assortment of Emprass, Poplin, Velours, Cashmere, Merino and other DRESS GOODS at popular prices.

Immense bargains given in Waterproof. Huge inducements " Black Alpaca. Tremendous reduction in White and Grey Blankets.

Large decline in Plain and Twilled Flannels. SHAWLS.

Broche, Merino, Ottoman and other styles at low figures. CARPETS.

Brussels reduced from \$1.50 to \$1.40. Ingrains " 1.15 to 1.00. " 87c to 75c. " 62c to 50c.

New List Carpets at 62c. SUNKIES.

Ladies' and Gentlemen's Underwear, fine stock of Linen Sots, Handkerchiefs, Hosiery, Ruffs, Portmonaies, &c., at 144 King st. dec 22

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS!

ROBERT L. WOODS.

Purchasers are especially invited to call and examine our stock of

LADIES' DRESS GOODS,

much of which was bought at the recently reduced prices, and consist of French Merinoes, French Cashmeres, all Wool, new style

Serges, Emprass Cloths, Barlen Cloths, Poplins, Delaines, Alpaca, Rich Plaid, Tycoon Keps, &c., also in

BLACK DRESS GOODS we have special bargains in wide Black Cashmeres, Black all Wool Poplins, Black pure Merino, Best Crow Black Alpaca, French Black Mouslin, with a full line of Gray and Second Mourning Dress Goods.

Our assortment embraces a great variety of colors, including all the desirable cash buyers. Special inducements offered to cash buyers. nov 19

GOODS AT THE LOWEST POINT.

Just from New York.

We have just returned from the market with some as cheap goods, of every description, as were ever offered in this city. The

DRESS GOODS AND SHAWLS we have call particular attention to.

BLANKETS, all numbers and qualities. FLANNELS, white, red and grey.

COTTON SHEETINGS, in all widths. CANTON FLANNELS, bleached and bro., and everything else to make an assortment complete.

We invite all who want to make purchases in our line to give us a call. We have the goods, and the prices are right. dec 18

D. F. WITMER CO.

CASSIMERES.

We have just received a beautiful assortment of Cassimeres and Suitings, making our stock as complete as any during the season. We

have always on hand the best makes of English, French and German Goods, and will furnish Suits in the very latest styles, guaranteeing fit and satisfaction. oct 20

D. F. WITMER CO.

74 King Street, 74

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.

BOOTS & SHOES,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

FALL TRADE, 1873.

The subscriber has now on hand one of the largest and best selected stocks of goods in his line ever offered in this market, which he can afford to sell at prices to suit the times.

He names in part—

LADIES' GENTS' MISSES' BOYS' and CHILDREN'S

BOOTS AND SHOES,

of fine and coarse work, ever before offered for sale in this market, manufactured from the best material, and in the most durable and stylish manner, comprising a great variety of new and handsome styles.

Also a large stock of

ROOTS, SHOES AND BROGANS, SUITABLE

FOR THE COUNTRY TRADE,

to which he invites the especial attention of country merchants and farmers.

All in want will do well to call before purchasing elsewhere.

W. B. WADDEY

NO. 74 KING STREET.

sep 12-1f

FLOUR!

Joseph Maples' Mount Jackson high ground Family and Extra Flour.

Uncle Tom's Best Extra Loudoun Mills Choice Extra.

J. R. Hornbaker's Best Extra. Minneap Spring Wheat.

Baker Extra. For sale by

THOMAS PERRY, 17 King street. dec 24

NOTICE!

To furnish work for our tailors through the dull season and to reduce our inventory, we announce a decided reduction in prices for our Merchant Tailoring Department, to begin to-morrow, January 1st, and continue for sixty days. Our assortment of CLOTHS, CASSIMERES and VESTINGS is good, and we will furnish Suits, Pants or Vests, guaranteed to fit.

D. F. WITMER CO. dec 31

PINEAPPLE, Edam and Sapsago Cheese, C. Cross & Blackwell's Pickles, Potted Tongue, Beef and Devilled Ham, Lea & Perrin's Worcestershire Sauce, English Salad Dressing, French Capers, Olives, Mustards, &c.,—fresh stock at lowest prices.

GEO. MCBURNEY & SON, 166 and 170 King street. dec 23

LIVERPOOL SALT.

1,000 sacks MARSHALL'S FINE SALT.

1,000 sacks GROUND ALUM SALT.

For sale by

HOOE & JOHNSTON. jan 13

FANCY GOODS AND NOTIONS.

\$3,000 \$3,000

WORTH OF CHILDREN'S CARRIAGES

AT

GREEN'S NOTION HOUSE.

First instalment just arrived, comprising a great variety.

The balance of my large order for the

WHOLESALE TRADE

will be received as fast as the Carriages (all new styles) are finished.

Variety will comprise over thirty styles. Handsome, substantial and cheap.

Every Carriage warranted for one year. Undoubtedly the best in the country.

For the convenience and interest of parties South, I will deliver Carriages for shipment to New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore or Norfolk without extra charge. Parties from every section can rely upon getting the best Carriage manufactured at prices as low as can be found in the United States.

CROQUET!

of which I will have a large stock, at prices ranging from \$3 to \$15, will in like manner be delivered at the above named points.

CHARLES W. GREEN,

76 KING STREET.

Lock Box 12. jan 29-eo5t

OUR FALL STOCK, which we are receiving daily, has been sorted with great care. It is, without doubt, the most complete assortment in the city. Call and see it at

Mrs. DREIFUS', 100 King street. oct 18

A FULL LINE OF HOSIERY, GLOVES, Corsets, Embroidery, in new styles, which have been bought cheap, and will be sold accordingly, at

Mrs. DREIFUS', 100 King street. oct 18

OUR COUNTRY FRIENDS are especially invited, when in town, to call and see us.

Mrs. DREIFUS', 100 King st. Next door to Mr. Paff's shoe store, sign of the big boot. oct 18

HEALTH IS WEALTH.—Go and get a full supply of WINTER GARMENTS of all kinds, at

Mrs. DREIFUS', 100 King street. oct 18

A FULL LINE OF ZEPHYR and GERMANTOWN WOOL and SILK and WORSTEDS, at

Mrs. DREIFUS', 100 King st. oct 18

DON'T FORGET TO EXAMINE OUR FIFTY-CENT KID GLOVES. They are just in season and suit our hard times.

Mrs. DREIFUS', 100 King st. oct 18

WATER-PROOF SUITS can be bought and will be made to order at

Mrs. DREIFUS', 100 King st. oct 18

FINANCIAL.

W. D. CORSE & CO.,

BANKERS AND BROKERS.

BUY AND SELL

GOLD AND SILVER COIN, RAILROAD, STATE, CITY AND ALL LOCAL OR OTHER GOOD INVESTMENT SECURITIES.

Also execute orders for any Stocks or Bonds on the Stock Boards of New York or Baltimore, on commission, and have for sale—

VIRGINIA COUPONS, receivable for State taxes, and all local investment securities. Interest allowed on deposits, subject to call, as may be agreed upon. Will be glad to give or obtain any information for parties desiring to make investments. aug 26

BURKE & HERBERT,

Dealers in

GOLD, GOVERNMENT BONDS, LOCAL STOCKS, AND ALL FIRST-CLASS RAILROAD BONDS and other

good investment securities, have for sale

VIRGINIA COUPONS, receivable for taxes. FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS LYNCHBURG and DANVILLE R. R. CO., at 75 and interst. ALEXANDRIA CORPORATION SIX PER CENT BONDS.

Any information in regard to investments cheerfully given. my 21

BUILDING MATERIAL.

ROBT. JAMIESON. A. G. UHLER. BOYD M. SMITH.

JAMIESON, UHLER & CO.,

ALEXANDRIA PLANING MILLS, SASH, DOOR & BLIND MANUFACTORY.

Dealers in

Dressed Lumber, White Pine, Georgia, Carolina and Virginia

Shingles, Doors, Boards, Frames, Mouldings, Bracketts, Newels Balusters, and Mantelpieces,

constantly on hand at the Factory. Call and examine stock and prices. ap8-1f

FANCY GOODS.

FERGUSON'S

HAIR DEPOT.

NEW NOVELTIES IN JEWELRY. BRACELETS, HAIR ORNAMENTS, &c. Call and see our new \$2, \$3, \$4 and \$5 Switches, superior to anything ever before offered at these prices.

COMBINGS! COMBINGS! Made into beautiful Braids, Switches, Curis, &c. All work warranted first-class at

oct 29 FERGUSON'S HAIR DEPOT.

GEORGE K. HILL & CO.,

Steam Cracker & Cake Bakers,

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

fy 15-1f

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE—All persons indebted to the estate of the late NANCY ALLEN are hereby notified to make prompt payment, and any having claims against the said estate are required to present them, properly authenticated for settlement.

jan 16-w4w H. S. W. BARKER, Adm'r.

SOMETHING NEW—ANALINE DYES.

We have received an assortment of the above celebrated Dyes. From twelve colors over one hundred shades can be obtained. Full directions with each package. For sale by

jan 22 E. S. LEADBEATER & BRO.

SPECIAL CARE TAKEN IN MANUFACTURING MY

NO. 1 FAMILY SOAP.

Z. TOBKINER.

Virginia Soap Works dec 2

BOOTS AND SHOES.

ENGLISH RUBBERS! ENGLISH RUBBERS

At WADDEY'S, 74 King street.

LADIES' FINE CALF KID AND RUSSIA LEATHER BUTTON BOOTS.

Vienna style. At WADDEY'S, 74 King street.

LADIES' PARLOR